

THE
FAERIE LEVELLER:

OR,

King CHARLES his Leveller descri-
ed and deciphered in Queene ELIZA-
BETH S dayes.

By her Poet Laureat *Edmond Spenser*, in his unpareld
Poeme, entituled,

THE FAERIE QVEENE.

A lively representation of our times.

Anagram:

Parliaments Army.
Paritie mar'sal men.



Printed juſt leuell anens the Saints Army : in the yeare of their
Saintſhips ungodly Revelling for a godly Levelling. 1648.

THE GREAT OCEAN

King of the Sea
and Lord of the Deep

By the Author of
The Great Ocean

THE GREAT OCEAN

A History of the Sea

By the Author of
The Great Ocean

1848

Printed by the Author, 10, Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4.



A necessary Preface opening the Allegory.



Reader, thou art here presented with a resplendent Jewell, taken out of a full Cabinet; but it not every ones purchase: besides, not of so speciall marke or regard there, in so great an heape, as here being culled out by it selfe, and set forth for present use: slight it not, because it is not the publishers owne invention: who does esteeme the Spyders webbe any whit the better, for that it is spunne out of her owne Intralls? or like hony the worse, for that the industrious Bee gathers it from Flowers abroad? here is meat out of the Eater, sweet hony to be found in the carkasse of a slaine Lyon; do thou but with *Jonathan* taste of it, and thou shalt have thy sight cleared in some remarkable matters, which before thou didst not discern, or observe: thou hast here plainly discovered to publique view, the mischievous condition, the malicious disposition, the presumptuous enterprizes, the tumultuous practises; in a word, the dangerous doings of these pernicious Sectaries, the confounders of orders, the movers of Sedition, the disturbers of Peace, the subverters of well-settled States (if they be not timely met with and prevented by justice) lately risen up and now reigning amongst us, by the name of Levellers; they were discryed long agoe in Queene *Elizabeths* dayes, and then graphically described by the Prince of English Poets *Edmund Spenser*, whose verses then propheticall are now become historicall in our dayes, I have now revised, and newly published them for the undeceiving of simple people, too apt to be induced into an high concept and overweening opinion of such Deceivers, and too ready to be seduced by their specious pretences of reducing all to a just equality, and restoring all to their rights and libertie: whereas on the contrary their endeavour is evident

dent to take away every mans propriety; and to bring all under slavery to themselves. The Booke out of which this fragment is taken (called the *Faery Queene*) is altogether Allegoricall, and needes a litle explanation: the drift and intention of the Author in it, is to set forth a complear Gentleman; accomplisht with all vertues adorning a truly noble Person. The first Booke containes the Legend of Justice, the most universall vertue. In the second Canto *Arbigeall* the Champion of Justice, with the assistance of *Talus* his Groome betokening execution of Law, having overcome all illegall arbitrary, oppressive power; under the person of *Pollente*, a barbarous *Saracen*, strengthened by his Daughter *Manera* importing bribes and taxes: He proceeds to suppress the Gyant Ring-leader to the faction of Levellers, or applying all to these times; I suppose I may briefly give you this key of the work.

Arbigeall Prince of Justice. King Charles.

Talus his Executioner With his yron splaye. The Kings forces, or Gregory.

Pollente an oppressing Saracen. The prevalent over awing Faction in the two Houses.

Manera his assistant. The intolerable Tax-raisers, the Country Committees, Sequestrators and Excize-men: These must first be apprehended and brought to justice, ere the Army be quelled.

The Gyant Leveller. Col. Oliver Cromwell, L. G. of the *Sts Army*: the Letters of whose name fall into this Anagram.

Oliver Cromwell. Cont. our vil' Leveller.

On the constant report of whose death, take for an Epitaph that of the Poet. — *Mors Sceptra ligonibus aquat.*

Death which the Scepers levells with the spade,
His fellow levellers Cromwell's Grave hath made.

So I dismiss him with that of the Traytor *Judas*, Act 1. 25, who by transgression sell, that he might go to his owne place. And his complices with *Thomas Stornebold*, version of the 10. v. of the 3. *Psalm*.

Destroy their false conspiracies, that they may come to naught:

Subvert them in their heapes of sinne, that have rebell'n wrought.

There followeth a brief: introductory transition from the foregoing to the ensuing part of the Canto.

T H B

THE FAERIE LEVELLER.

Arthegall with his Grooms Talus

having Pollenre quest :

And crown'd his Daughter Munera,

they on their journey wēt d.



N which they measur'd mickle weary way,

Till that at length nigh to the Sea they drew ;

By which as they did travaile on a day,

They saw before them far as they could view,

Full many people gathered in a crew,

Whose great assembly they did much admire ;

For never there the like resort they knew :

So towards them they Coasted to enquire

What thing so many Nations met, did there desire.

There they beheld a mighty Gyant stand

Upon a Rock, and holding forth on high

An huge great paire of Ballance in his hand ;

With which he boasted in his surquedry,

That all the world he would waigh equally ;

If ought he had the same to counterpoys :

For want whereof he waighed vanity ;

And fil'd his Ballance full of idle toyes :

Yet was admired much of Fookes, Women, and Boyes.

He said, that he would all the earth up take,

And all the Sea, divided each from either :

So would he of the fire one Ballance make,

And one of th' Ayre, without of wind, or weather :

Then would he Ballance Heaven and Hell together,

And all that did within them all containe,

Of all whose waight he would not misse a feather :

And looke what surplus did of each remaine,

He would to his owne part restore the same againe.

For why, he said, they all unequal were;

And had entrench'd upon others share.

Like as the Sea (which plain he shewed there)

Had worne the earth: so did the fire the Ayre:

So all the rest did others parts impair.

And so were Realmes, and Nations run swry:

All which he undertooke for to repaire,

In sort as they were formed anciently:

And all things would reduce to equality.

Therefore the vulgar did about him flocke,

And cluster thick unto his leasings vaine:

(Like foolish Flies about a hony crocke)

In hope by him great benefit to gaine,

And uncontrolled freedome to obtaine.

All which when *Archiball* did see, and heare

How he mis-led the simple peoples traine.

In 'scainefull-wise he drew unto him neere,

And thus unto him spake without regard, or feare.

'Thou that presum'st to waigh the world anew;

'And all things to an equal to restore

'Instead of right, me seemes, great wrong dost shew;

'And far above thy forces pitch to fore;

'For ere thou limit what is lesse or more

'In every thing, thou oughtest first to know

'What was the poyle of every part of yore:

'And looke then how much it doth overflow,

'Or faile thereof, so much is more then just to throw.

'For at the first they all created were

'In goodly measure, by their makers might:

'And waigh'd out in Ballance so iustlye

'That not a dramme was missing of their right.

'The Earth was in the middle Center pight;

'In which it doth unmoveable abide,

'Hem'd in with waters, like a wall in sight:

'And they with Ayre, that not a drop can slide:

'All which the Heavens containe, and in their courses guide.

'Such

- ' Such Heavenly justice doth among them raigne;
 ' That every one do know their certaine bound;
 ' In which they do these many yeares remaine;
 ' And 'mongst them all no change hath yet bene found:
 ' But if thou now shouldst weigh them new in pound,
 ' We are not sure they would so long remaine:
 ' All change is perillous, and all chance unsound:
 ' Therefore leave off to weigh them all againe,
 ' Till we may be assur'd they shall their course retaine.
 , Thou foolish Else, said then the Gyant wroth,
 , Seest not how badly all things present be?
 , And each estate quite out of order go'th?
 , The Sea it selfe, dost thou not plainely see,
 , Encroach upon the Land there under thee?
 , And th' Earth it selfe how dayly its encreas'd
 , By all that dying to it turned be?
 , Were it not good that wrong were then surceast,
 , And from the most that some were given to the least?
 , Therefore I will throw downe those mountaines high,
 , And make them leuell with the lowly plaine:
 , These towring rocks that reach unto the skie
 , I will thrust downe into the deepest maine;
 , And as they were, them equallize againe:
 , Tyrants that make men subject to their Law,
 , I will suppress that they no longer raigne;
 , And Lordings curbe that Commons over-aw:
 , And all the wealth of rich-men to the poore will draw.
 ' Of things unseene how canst thou deeme aright?
 ' Then answered the righteous Archepall:
 ' Sith thou misdeem'st so much of things in sight,
 ' What though the Sea with waves continuall
 ' Doe eate the Earth? it is no more at all:
 ' Ne is the Earth the lesse, or losseth ought:
 ' For whatsoever from one place doth fall,
 ' Is with the tide unto another brought;
 ' For there is nothing lost that may be found, if sought.

' Like;

- Likewise the Earth is not augmented more;
- By all that dienge into it do fade;
- For of the Earth they formed were of yore;
- How ever gay their blossome or their blade;
- Doe flourish now, they into dust shall vade;
- What wrong then is it, if that when they dye,
- They turne to that whereof they first were made?
- All in the power of their great maker lye:
- All Creatures must obey the voice of the most high.
- They live, they dye, like as he doth ordaine:
- Ne ever any asketh reason why?
- The hills do not the lowly Dales disdain.
- The Dales do not the lofty hills envy.
- He maketh Kings to sit in Sovereignty.
- He maketh Subjects to their power obey.
- He pulleth downe, he setteth up on high.
- He gives to this, from that he takes away:
- For all we have is his; what he list do he may.
- What ever thing is done, by him is done:
- Ne any may his mighty will withstand.
- Ne any may his Sovereigne power shunne:
- Ne loose that he hath bound with stedfast band:
- In vaine therefore dost thou now take in hand,
- To call to count, or waigh his workes anew;
- Whose counsells depe thou canst not understand,
- Sith of things Subject to thy dayly view,
- Thou dost not know their causes nor their courses dew.
- For take thy Ballance, (if thou be so wise)
- And weigh the winde that under Heaven doth blow;
- Or waigh the light that in the East doth rise,
- Or weigh the thought that from mans minde doth flow;
- But if the waight of these thou canst not shew,
- Waigh but one word which from thy lips doth fall;
- For how canst thou those greater secrets know?
- That dost not know the least thing of them all:
- Ill can he rule the great, that cannot reach the small.

There-

Therewith the Gyant much abashed said,
 That he of little things made reckoning light;
 Yet the least word that ever could be said
 Within his Ballance, he could waigh a right,
 Which is, said he, more heavy than in waight,
 The right or wrong? the false or else the true?
 He answered that he would try it streight;
 So he the words into his Ballance threw;
 But streight the winged words out of his Ballance flew.

Wroth waxt he then, and said that words were light;
 Ne would within his Ballance well abide;
 But he could justly waigh the wrong or right;
 Well then said Arthegall let it be try'd,
 First in one Ballance, let the true abide;
 He did so first, and then the false he layd
 In th' other scale; but still it downe did slide,
 And by no meane could in the waight be stayd,
 For by no meanes the false will with the true be waigh'd.

Now take the right like wife said Arthegall,
 And counterpoise the same with so much wrong;
 See first the right he put into one scale;
 And then the Gyant strove with puissance strong
 To fill the other scale with so much wrong;
 But all the wrongs that he therein could lay,
 Might not suffice; yet did he labour long,
 And sweat, and chaf't, and proved every way;
 Yet all the wrongs could not a little right downe lay.

Which when he saw he greatly grew in rage,
 And almost would his Ballances have broken;
 But Arthegall him fairly gan assuage,
 And said, be not upon thy Ballance wroken;
 For they do nought but right or wrong betoken;
 But in the minde the doome of right must be;
 And so like wise of words the which be spoken,
 The Eare must be the Ballance to decree,
 And judge whether with truth or falsehood they agree.

But set the truth, and let the right stand;
 ' For they with wrong, or falsehood will not stand;
 ' And put two wrongs together to be right;
 ' Or else two falses of each equal share;
 ' And then together do them both compare;
 ' For truth is one, and right is ever one;
 So did he, and then plain it did appear.

Whether of them the greater wrong was;
 But right set in the middle of the breach;

But he the right from thence did straight away;

For it was not the right which he did seek;

But rather strove extremes to weigh;

Th' one to diminish, th' other for to raise;

For of the meane he greatly did desire;

Whom when so fewly minded Talus found,

Approaching nigh unto him checkt by chaine;

He considered him from off the higher ground;

And downe the Rock him throwing, in the Sea him downed;

Like as a Ship which crusht with drift in an

Upon a Rock with horrible casualty;

Her shattered Ribs in thousand peeces rent;

And spoyling all her treasures and goodly wares;

Does make herselfe into a thousand peeces;

So downe the Cliff the wretched Captain fell;

His battered Balances in peeces lay;

His timbred bones all broken vnicely rumbled;

So was the high aspiring with huge noise troubled.

That when the people who had these about

Long wayted, saw his madame destruction;

They gan to gather in tumultuous throng;

And mutining to stir up civil Faction;

For certaine hope of so great expectation;

For well they hoped to have got great good,

And wondrous riches by his innovation;

Therefore resolving to revenge his blood;

They rose in armes and all in battell order stood.

Which

Which Lawlesse multitude him comming to
 In warlike wise, when Arthegall did view,
 He much was troubled, ne wist what to doe,
 For loath he was his noble hands t' embrew,
 In the base blood of such a Rascall crew,
 And otherwise if that he should retire,
 He fear'd lest they with shame would him pursue:
 Therefore he Talus to them sent t'enquire
 The cause of their array, and trace far to desire.

But soone as they him nigh approaching spy'd,
 They 'gan with all their weapons him assaile,
 And rudely stroke at him on every side:
 Yet nought they could him hurt, ne ought dismay:
 But when at them he with his Flayle 'gan lay,
 He like a swarme of flies them overthrow:
 Ne any of them durst come in his way,
 But here and there before his presence flew,
 And hid themselves in holes and bushes from his view.

As when a Faulcon hath with nimble flight
 Flowne at a flush of Ducks fore by the brooke:
 The trembling Fowle dismay'd with dreadfull sight
 Of Death the which them almost overtook,
 Doe hide themselves from her affrighting looke,
 Amongst the Flags, and covert round about:
 When Talus saw they all the field forsooke,
 And none appear'd of all that Rascall Rout:
 To Arthegall he turn'd, and went with him throughout.